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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 22, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 17 totaled an estimated 16.2 billion ton-miles, 1.2 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. The 1981 week included the Good Friday holiday and the third week of the coal miners' strike.

Cumulative volume for the first 16 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 256.6 billion ton-miles, 10.4 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 17 totaled 375,229 cars, 2.4 percent above 1981 and 6.1 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 26.5 percent in the East but down 2.8 percent in the South and 7.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were down. Eighteen of the 21 groups increased from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 10, which included the Good Friday holiday, totaled 32,936 cars, down 0.7 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 60,818 trailers and/or containers, 0.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first fifteen weeks of the year was 517,179 cars, 7.8 percent higher than last year, and 909,804 trailers and/or containers, up 4.6 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/17/82:

	Loadings in Week ended April 17, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,567	I	2,758	12.6	D	376	1.5
Other farm products	3,150	D	544	14.7	I	345	12.3
Metallic ores	20,415	D	9,963	32.8	I	1,071	5.5
Coal	118,916	I	58,486	96.8	I	5,346	4.7
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,181	D	4,594	33.4	I	250	2.8
Nonmetallic minerals	11,059	D	2,801	20.2	I	1,987	21.9
Grain mill products	10,989	D	2,708	19.8	D	31	0.3
Food and kindred products	12,781	D	1,720	11.9	I	894	7.5
Primary forest products	16,157	D	2,756	14.6	I	1,502	10.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,965	D	3,216	35.0	I	336	6.0
Pulp, paper and allied products	16,335	D	2,985	15.5	I	670	4.3
Chemicals and allied products	23,427	D	3,725	13.7	I	1,936	9.0
Petroleum products	4,912	I	428	9.5	I	598	13.9
Stone, clay and glass products	10,160	D	3,887	27.7	I	907	9.8
Coke	5,199	D	465	8.2	I	54	1.0
Metals and products	10,456	D	5,628	35.0	I	1,103	11.8
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,857	D	2,070	12.2	I	1,851	14.2
aste and scrap materials	8,925	D	3,536	28.4	I	1,294	17.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,240	D	1,292	13.6	I	166	2.1
All other carloads	39,359	D	1,119	2.8	I	1,577	4.2
LCL traffic	179	D	37	17.1	D	19	9.6
Total Cars Loaded	375,229	I	8,626	2.4	I	21,461	6.1
Corresponding week of 1981	366,603						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (16 weeks)	5,943,253	6,759,554	D 12.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
15 Weeks cumulative	240.4	270.3	D 11.1
Week ended April 17	16.2	16.0	I 1.2
16 Weeks cumulative	256.6	286.3	D 10.4

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